GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:387
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
DELAY IN PROVIDING BROADBAND CONNECTIONS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in urban areas the subscribers have to wait for a long period to avail of the broadband services being provided by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL); and

(b) if so, the steps taken/ being taken by the Government to reduce the delay in providing broadband connections in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A RAJA)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 387 FOR 21st APRIL, 2008 REGARDING DELAY IN PROVIDING BROADBAND CONNECTIONS.

(a)&(b) There is a waiting list of 12,924 and 1,341 for broadband connections of MTNL in Mumbai and Delhi respectively as on 31.03.2008. However, in other parts of the country, broadband connections of BSNL are available on demand.

MTNL has recently added 34,000 and 30,000 capacity to its existing broadband network in Mumbai and Delhi respectively.These new additions will take care of the present backlog and fresh demands, which is likely to be generated.MTNL has further planned to add 1.66 lakh & 2.7 lakh capacity in Mumbai & Delhi respectively to its broadband network in 2008-09.

BSNL has provided 20.32 lakh broadband connections as on 31.03.2008. It has also planned for augmenting its present broadband capacity of 34.7 lakh by 14 lakh (including rural areas) to maintain on demand status.